

2015

W I S C O N S I N

Early Canada Goose Early Teal Mourning Dove Hunting Regulations



Report Natural Resource Violations

CALL or TEXT:

800-TIP-WDNR

(800-847-9367)

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This pamphlet summarizes Wisconsin migratory bird hunting regulations. For a complete set of laws, please refer to the Wisconsin State Statutes and Administrative Codes of the Department of Natural Resources.

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Dear Migratory Game Bird Hunter,

Welcome to the new early season regulation brochure!

Over the years, we have provided additional bird hunting opportunities earlier in the fall. The early Canada goose hunting season was expanded statewide and lengthened, we added a dove hunting season and now an experimental early teal duck hunting season.

With these new seasons comes a need for improved communication. In 2014, with the new early teal season, you asked for a more clear description of the concurrent early bird seasons. We listened!

This brochure represents our response to your request. Feel free to provide us any feedback.

In this one document you will find the details regarding all the bird hunting seasons which begin on September 1. Here is an overview of what you will find.

- **On September 1, early teal, early goose and mourning dove seasons begin.**
- **Dove and early goose shooting hours begin, on opening day and for the remainder of each season, at a half hour before sunrise.**
- **Early teal shooting hours begin at 9 AM on opening day and then at sunrise for the final 6 days. Shooting hours close at 7 PM for teal on all 7 days.**
- **All 3 early bird seasons require a small game license or equivalent and an HIP certification. Only a plugged shotgun with a maximum capacity of three shells—or a single or double-barrel shotgun—may be used.**
- **A federal and state duck stamp privilege is required to hunt the teal and early goose seasons.**
- **Nontoxic shot is required for all goose and teal hunting—and for dove hunting on state and federal lands.**

Remember—SAFETY FIRST!—always be sure of your target and what is beyond and be respectful of other outdoor users during this early fall period.

Thanks and enjoy,

Kent Van Horn
Migratory Game Bird Ecologist

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2015 Highlights

- Wisconsin’s second of three experimental early teal season will be held September 1 through September 7, 2015. Only bluewing teal and green wing teal may be harvested.
- Identifying teal on the wing is difficult and takes practice. Hunters are encouraged to visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/hunt/waterfowl.html> to sharpen their duck identification skills. As ducks will be in drab plumage during this early season, it is crucial that hunters be sure of their target before pulling the trigger.
- Dove hunters will want to see page 18 for information on FFLIGHT—Field & Forest Interactive Gamebird Habitat Tool.

Questions

Contact the DNR Call Center

(888) WDNR INFO (888-936-7463) local (608) 266 2621

TTY access via relay - 711

Staff are available 7 days a week from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Hmong- and Spanish-speaking representatives are available.

dnr.wi.gov

Scan to call the DNR Call Center



The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

The Department of Natural Resources is committed to serving people with disabilities. If you need this information in an alternative format, please call (608) 266-2621.

Migratory Gamebird Restrictions

Hunting restrictions apply to all species listed in the *2015 Small Game Hunting Regulations*. The following rules also apply.

1) Definitions

a) Migratory Birds

- Migratory game birds include waterfowl, rails, mourning doves, woodcock, coots, moorhen and snipe.

b) Waterfowl

- Waterfowl include ducks, geese and brant.

c) Daily Bag Limit

- The daily bag limit is the maximum number of a species or group of species which one person may reduce to possession in one day.

d) Aggregate Daily Bag Limit

- The maximum number of migratory gamebirds permitted to be taken by one person in any one day, when the person hunts in more than one zone or state and/or for more than one species for which a combined daily bag limit is prescribed. The aggregate daily bag limit is equal to the largest daily bag limit prescribed for any one species or for any one zone or state in which the taking occurs.

e) Aggregate Possession Limit

- The maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or combination of species taken in the United States permitted to be possessed by any one person when taking and possession occurs in more than one specified geographic area for which a possession limit is prescribed. The aggregate possession limit is equal to, but shall not exceed, the largest possession limit prescribed for any one of the species or specified geographic areas in which taking and possession occurs.

2) Shot Requirements

- a) See pages 9 and 10 for non-toxic shot requirements. It is the hunter's responsibility to know what rules apply.

3) Specifically Prohibited

- a) While pursuing migratory game birds, it is ***illegal*** to:

- hunt before or after established hunting hours;
- take migratory game birds during the closed season;
- take or attempt to take more than the daily bag or aggregate daily bag limit (*see Definitions, above*), or;

Note: group bagging for migratory game birds is NOT allowed.

- possess more than the daily bag limit while at or between the place the game bird(s) was/were/killed and the hunter's temporary or permanent abode.

4) Open Water Hunting

- No person may hunt waterfowl in open water from or with the aid of any blind including any boat, canoe, raft, contrivance or similar device except from:

a) Mississippi River

- Blinds in any of the waters of the Mississippi River and adjoining counties, provided the blinds are securely anchored and located not more than 100 ft. from any shoreline including islands. Blinds in open water in the Lake Pepin and Grant county* portions of the Mississippi River are permitted regardless of the distance from shore provided the blinds are securely anchored and removed daily at the close of hunting hours.

*Federal laws do not allow hunting in open water beyond 100 ft. from shore near Potosi, Wisconsin river mile 586.3 to 592.1 in Grant county. For more information contact: Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge at (507) 452-4232 or visit fws.gov/refuge/upper_mississippi_river.

b) Great Lakes Area and Big Green Lake

- Blinds in open waters of Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Green Bay and Big Green Lake in Green Lake county, if located more than 500 ft. from any lake or bay shoreline. Blinds do not have to be anchored in these areas but must be removed daily at the close of hunting hours.

c) Other Large Lakes

- Blinds in open waters of the following lakes, if located more than 1,000 ft. from any shoreline, including islands, provided blinds are securely anchored and removed daily at the close of hunting hours:

Beaver Dam Lake (excluding Rakes and Trestle Works Bays), Dodge county	Lake Wisconsin (north of railroad bridge), Sauk and Columbia counties
Castle Rock Lake (south of railroad bridge and Cty G), Adam and Juneau counties	Lake Wissota (south of Cty S and north of Cty X), Chippewa county
Fence Lake, Vilas county	North Twin Lake, Vilas county
Grindstone Lake, Sawyer county	Petenwell Flowage (north of Hwy 21 and south of Hwy 73), Adams, Juneau and Wood counties
Lake Puckaway (waters west of the west end of the dredge bank, excluding waters east of the west end of the dredge bank), Marquette and Green Lake counties	Shawano Lake, Shawano county
Lake Winnebago, Calumet, Fond du Lac and Winnebago counties	Trout Lake, Vilas county

The following methods of hunting waterfowl from open water are **legal**:

d) Hunting from a Boat, Blind or Similar Devices when in Compliance with All of the Following:

- some part of the boat, blind or device is within 3 ft. of naturally occurring emergent vegetation (live or dead*) that is rooted to the bottom;
 - emergent vegetation that provides at least 50% concealment of the hunter, boat and blind when viewed from at least one direction from a height of 3 ft. above the water, and;
 - emergent vegetation that extends above the water's surface to a height at or above the sides of any boat being used for hunting.
- *Dead stumps and dead trees in the water do not constitute a natural growth of vegetation for the purpose of this rule.

e) Exception for Disabled Hunters

- Hunters possessing a Class A or B Disabled Permit that authorizes hunting from a stationary vehicle and which has been issued for more than one year and a person who assists the disabled hunter in the same boat may hunt more than 3 ft. from emergent vegetation that provides the required 50% concealment of the hunters and boat, but not farther than necessary to maintain the minimum depth of water necessary for operation of the boat being used by the hunters. All such open water blinds shall be removed daily at the close of hunting hours.

Note: you may hunt in any open water area provided you are standing on the bottom without the aid of a blind. Blinds include, but are not limited to, any boat, canoe, raft or similar device that provides any concealment for the hunter. In areas where open water blinds are legal, (*see pages 5 and 6*) they must be removed at the close of hunting hours each day. See p. 9 for laws on shooting near dwellings.

f) Jump Shooting

- The open water restrictions are not intended to prohibit legal jump shooting activities. It is legal to hunt from a non-motorized boat on narrow streams. However, on larger bodies of water where shooting shore to shore is not possible, the hunter must keep a portion of the boat concealed as described in section 1d, at the top of this page. Skirting the edge of rivers and lakes in this way is considered legal.

5) Structures, Boats and Vehicles

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is **illegal** to:

a) Structures

- Hunt from any pier, dam, dock, breakwater or similar artificial structure.

Note: Class A Disabled Hunting Permit holders are exempt.

b) Sink Box

- Hunt from a sink box (a low floating device that has a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).

c) Waterfowl Blind

- Establish a waterfowl blind on state property, including the bed of any navigable lake, prior to 7 days before the waterfowl season or leave

it established beyond 7 days after the close of the waterfowl season. No person may maintain, occupy or use any blind left on state property during the season unless the owner's name, address and DNR customer ID number, in the English language and in lettering one square inch or larger is affixed permanently to the blind and is readily visible and legible at all times.

Note: placement of waterfowl blinds on public land does not restrict others from using or hunting on the public land where the blind is located.

d) Moving Boats

- Hunt or shoot from any moving boat other than those propelled by paddle, oars or pole. Motorboats and sailboats must have their motors completely shut off and/or the sail furled and its progress ceased before loading or discharging a firearm.

e) Vehicle Use

- Take migratory game birds from or with the aid or use of any vehicle (not including boats) except by qualified disabled persons under a valid DNR permit. Federal rules prohibit taking migratory game birds from any motor vehicle unless the person is a paraplegic or is missing one or both legs.

f) Hazing

- Use in any manner any air, water or motor-driven land conveyance, including any unmanned aircraft or drones, for the purposes of concentrating, driving, rallying or stirring up any migratory game bird to put them in the range of hunters.

6) Devices

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is ***illegal*** to:

a) Hunt with decoys that are:

- Placed beyond 200 ft. from the cover in which the hunter is located.
- Placed in the water prior to one hour before the opening of waterfowl hunting hours.
- Left in the water more than 20 minutes after the close of waterfowl hunting hours.
- Left in the water unattended.

Note: you may leave decoys unattended on dry land.

- Live, regardless of distance from the hunter.

Note: all live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of migratory wild waterfowl.

b) Hunt with or while in possession of:

- Electronic bird calls.
- Recordings or imitations of bird calls while hunting waterfowl.

7) Baiting

A baited area refers to any area on which salt, grain or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited or scattered, if it could serve as an attractant or lure for migratory game birds to, on or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. A baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after complete removal of the bait. While pursuing migratory game birds.

a) It is ***illegal*** to:

- Hunt waterfowl, coots or mourning doves by the method or aid of baiting or on or over any baited area where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited.

b) It is ***legal*** to:

- Hunt over standing crops or flooded standing crops; standing, flooded or manipulated natural vegetation; croplands flooded after harvest or lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of normal agricultural planting, normal agricultural harvest or post-harvest manipulation; or normal soil stabilization practice.
- Hunt from standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys or retrieving downed birds.

Note: regulations for hunting waterfowl and coot are more restrictive than for hunting mourning doves.

c) In addition to legal methods listed above, it is ***legal*** to:

- Hunt mourning doves over the following areas:
 - lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of normal agricultural practices, in addition to normal planting, normal harvesting and normal post-harvest manipulation;
 - manipulated agricultural crops or wildlife food plots provided these crops were planted in a manner consistent with extension service guidelines for planting a crop. Manipulation may not include the distributing or scattering of seeds, grains or other feed after the seed or grain has been harvested or removed from the field where it was grown.

Note: manipulation of crops or natural vegetation prior to harvest by mowing, shredding, discing, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning or herbicide treatment is legal for hunting mourning doves, but is not legal for hunting other species of wildlife, even if the purpose of the manipulation was for hunting mourning doves. The only time it is legal to hunt other species which are being attracted to manipulated crop lands or food plots is when the manipulation occurs after the field has undergone a normal harvest and removal of grain.

For more information, visit dnr.wi.gov keyword "*baiting*." For federal waterfowl and dove baiting regulations, visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife website at www.fws.gov.

8) Guns and Ammunition

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is ***illegal*** to:

a) **Firearm Discharge**

- Hunt within 50 ft. of the center of any public roadway.

Note: railroad rights-of-way are private property and trespassing is prohibited.

- Shoot a firearm within 100 yards of a building devoted to human occupancy while on lands you do not own, including while on any waters of the state, without permission of the owner or occupant of the building.

b) **Methods**

- Hunt with anything other than a shotgun fired from the shoulder, bow and arrow, crossbow or by falconry.

c) Other Methods

- Take migratory game birds with a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol/handgun, swivel gun, shotgun chambered for a shell larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance or possess any shotshells larger than no. 10 gauge.

d) Shotgun Capacity

- Hunt with a shotgun capable of holding more than 3 shells (magazine and chamber combined), unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of being removed without disassembling the gun.

e) Shot Type

- Hunt with or while in possession of any type of lead or toxic shot when hunting ducks, geese, brant, snipe, rails, coots and moorhens
- Hunters may not hunt with or while in possession of lead or toxic shot while hunting mourning doves on DNR managed land.
- Only non-toxic sizes BB, BBB, T or smaller are legal. Size F shot is illegal in Wisconsin. Only non-toxic shot may be possessed or used for hunting migratory and upland game bird species, including wild turkey, on all National Wildlife Refuges and Federal Waterfowl Production Areas. Contact the property manager for the property you plan to hunt about any rules specific to the property.

Non-Toxic Shot Type	Percent Composition by Weight
Bismuth-Tin	97% bismuth and 3% tin
Iron (steel)	Iron and carbon
Iron-Tungsten	Any proportion of tungsten and $\geq 1\%$ iron
Iron-Tungsten-Nickel	$\geq 1\%$ iron, any proportion of tungsten and up to 40% nickel
Copper-clad Iron	84% to 56.59% iron core, with copper cladding up to 44.1% of the shot mass
Tungsten-Bronze (two types)	51.1% tungsten, 44.4% copper, 3.9% tin and 0.6% iron or 60% tungsten, 35.1% copper, 3.9% tin and 1% iron
Tungsten-Iron-Copper-Nickel	40–76% tungsten, 10–37% iron, 9–16% copper and 5–7% nickel
Tungsten-Matrix	95.9% tungsten and 4.1% polymer
Tungsten-Polymer	95.5% tungsten and 4.5% Nylon 6 or 11
Tungsten-Tin-Iron	Any proportions of tungsten and tin and $\geq 1\%$ iron
Tungsten-Tin -Bismuth	Any proportions of tungsten, tin and bismuth.
Tungsten-Tin-Iron-Nickel	65% tungsten, 21.8% tin, 10.4% iron and 2.8% nickel
Tungsten-Iron-polymer	41.5-95.2% tungsten, 1.5-52.0% iron and 3.5-8.0% fluoropolymer

f) Firearm and Bow and Crossbow Transport

- Carry in or on a motor-driven boat while the motor is running, any firearm or bow unless it is unloaded or any crossbow unless it is unloaded and decocked or unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case.

Note: handguns can be loaded and uncased in a motorboat with the motor running. Hunting migratory birds with a handgun remains *illegal*.

9) Possession Restrictions

a) Retrieval

- No person may kill or cripple any game bird without making every reasonable effort to retrieve such bird. Until every reasonable effort is made, crippled birds shall be included in the daily bag. Crippled birds should be immediately pursued to prevent loss of the bird.

b) Open Water Retrieval

- Crippled birds which fall or move into open water should be immediately pursued. A hunter may shoot crippled birds from a boat propelled by paddle, oars or pole. A shotgun may be uncased but may not be loaded or discharged while in a boat with the motor running and until all forward motion from the motor has ceased.

c) Tagging

- No person may give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the:

- 1) hunter's signature;
- 2) hunter's address;
- 3) total number of birds involved, by species, and;
- 4) dates such birds were killed.

- No person or business may receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged and a record of such receipt is kept by the person or business

- Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

d) Possession of Live Birds

- Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

e) Importation

- For information regarding the importation of migratory game birds killed in another country, hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66. A copy can be obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by contacting:

5600 American Blvd. West, Suite 990

Bloomington, MN 55437-1458

(612) 713-5320; www.fws.gov.

Warning

Some areas in the state have local firearm discharge restrictions. Please contact your local law enforcement officials to determine if there are any local restrictions on the discharge of firearms in the area you plan to hunt.

f) Shipment

- No person may ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with the:
 - 1) name and address of the person sending the birds;
 - 2) name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and;
 - 3) number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

g) Transportation

- Migratory game birds may be field dressed before they are transported from the field. However, the head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds while in the field or being transported from the field to the person's permanent abode.

Note: this includes birds being transported between a hunting cabin, camp, motel or other temporary abode to the person's permanent abode or preservation facility.

h) Possession Limit

- For migratory birds, it is *illegal* to:
 - possess more than 3 daily bag limits, except on opening day when the possession limit is the same as the daily bag limit and the 2nd day of the season when the possession limit is only double the daily bag limit.

10) Restrictions on State and Federal Lands

a) DNR Lands

- Early Goose Season and Early Teal seasons are not open on the Mead Wildlife Area. Shooting hours on the Zeloski Marsh Unit of the Lake Mills State Wildlife Area close at 1 PM each day from September 1 to the sixteenth day of the regular duck season; normal shooting hours apply for opening weekend of the regular duck season. Locally restricted areas on DNR lands are posted with signs which describe the type of hunting regulations that apply to that area.
- For property-specific questions, please visit dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlife_areas/
- Hunters are required to use nontoxic shot while hunting mourning doves on DNR-managed land.

b) Federal Lands

- Specific regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges and Federal Waterfowl Production Areas that are open to public hunting. For additional information, contact the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Warden Authority

Conservation wardens performing their duties may enter private lands at any time. Wardens may also seize as evidence all game taken or possessed in violation of the law, and any equipment used in connection with a violation. Wardens do not have the authority to enforce trespass laws.

Early Goose Hunting Information

2015 Early Goose Season*					
Area	Hours	Species	Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Poss. Limit
Statewide	See table p. 13	Canada goose	Sept. 1-15	5	15

License, Stamp, Permit Requirements: Early Goose

See page 19 for information on license/stamp/permit purchase and exemptions, and for information on mentored hunts. To hunt Canada geese during the early season, you will need the following:

- 2015 Wisconsin hunting license valid for small game and the type of weapon used to harvest it
- 2015 Wisconsin early September Canada goose hunting permit (printed on your license)
- 2015 Wisconsin waterfowl stamp privilege (printed on your license)
- 2015 Federal migratory bird stamp, available after July 1
- Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration
- A valid hunter education certificate if born on or after January 1, 1973

Reporting/Validation: Early Goose

- When a Canada goose is killed, and before it is carried by hand or transported in any manner, the hunter shall validate the permit by slitting or punching holes in the permit according to the manner indicated on the permit. Failure to do so renders any goose in the person's possession illegal.
- Hunters must report each goose harvested within 48 hours of the kills by calling, toll free, **(800) 99 GOOSE, or (800) 994 6673**.

Health Advisory

No one should eat Canada geese using the waters in the City of Cedarburg. The DNR has issued this health advice to protect you from the exposure to PCBs in Canada geese taken in this area.

Consumption of Canada geese from Whitewater Lake and Rice Lake in Walworth County should be limited to once a month because of mercury contamination.

Calculating Hunting Hours: Early Goose

Legal hunting hours for the early September Canada goose season start 30 minutes before sunrise and end at sunset. It is illegal to hunt Canada geese outside of these hours. To calculate hunting hours for your zone, first determine if you are hunting in the northern area or southern area using the map on page 20. Then determine the zone in which you are hunting. Add the minutes shown for this zone to the opening and closing times found in the hunting hours table below.

Northern Area, Zone A

	A.M.	P.M.
Sept 1	5:41	7:28
Sept 2	5:42	7:27
Sept 3	5:43	7:25
Sept 4	5:45	7:23
Sept 5	5:46	7:21
Sept 6	5:47	7:19
Sept 7	5:48	7:17
Sept 8	5:50	7:15
Sept 9	5:51	7:13
Sept 10	5:52	7:11
Sept 11	5:53	7:09
Sept 12	5:54	7:07
Sept 13	5:56	7:06
Sept 14	5:57	7:04
Sept 15	5:58	7:02

Southern Area, Zone A

	A.M.	P.M.
Sept 1	5:44	7:26
Sept 2	5:45	7:25
Sept 3	5:46	7:23
Sept 4	5:48	7:21
Sept 5	5:49	7:19
Sept 6	5:50	7:18
Sept 7	5:51	7:16
Sept 8	5:52	7:14
Sept 9	5:53	7:12
Sept 10	5:54	7:10
Sept 11	5:55	7:08
Sept 12	5:57	7:07
Sept 13	5:58	7:05
Sept 14	5:59	7:03
Sept 15	6:00	7:01

Bird Bands

If you obtain a bird band, please report the date and location of recovery and receive information on your banded bird at www.pwrc.usgs.gov/BBL/bblretrv. If you are unable to report the band online, you may call 1-800-327-BAND or write the band number on a 3" x 5" postcard along with the date and location of recovery, your name and address and mail the card to:

Bird Banding Laboratory
12100 Beech Forest Rd.
Laurel, Maryland 20708

Early Teal Hunting Information

2015 Early Teal Season*					
Area	Hours	Species	Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Poss. Limit
Statewide	See table below	bluewing teal, greenwing teal	Sept. 1-7	6	18

License, Stamp, Permit Requirements: Early Teal

See page 19 for information on license/stamp/permit purchase and exemptions, and for information on mentored hunts. To hunt teal during the early season, you will need the following:

- 2015 Wisconsin small game license valid for type of weapon used
- 2015 Wisconsin waterfowl stamp privilege (printed on your license)
- 2015 Federal migratory bird stamp, available after July 1
- Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration
- A valid hunter education certificate if born on or after January 1, 1973

Calculating Hunting Hours: Early Teal

Legal hunting hours for early teal season are sunrise to 7 PM, except on September 1, when they begin at 9:00 AM. See hunting hours map on page 20 to determine if you are hunting in the northern or southern area. Adjust sunrise times based on your zone.

Northern Area, Zone A

	A.M.	P.M.
Sept 1	9:00	7:00
Sept 2	6:12	7:00
Sept 3	6:13	7:00
Sept 4	6:15	7:00
Sept 5	6:16	7:00
Sept 6	6:17	7:00
Sept 7	6:18	7:00

Southern Area, Zone A

	A.M.	P.M.
Sept 1	9:00	7:00
Sept 2	6:15	7:00
Sept 3	6:16	7:00
Sept 4	6:18	7:00
Sept 5	6:19	7:00
Sept 6	6:20	7:00
Sept 7	6:21	7:00

Mourning Dove Hunting Information

2015 Mourning Dove Season*					
Area	Hours	Species	Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Poss. Limit
Statewide	See table page 16–17	Mourning doves	Sept. 1–Nov. 29	15	45

License Requirements: Mourning Dove

See page 19 for information on license purchase and exemptions, and for information on mentored hunts. To hunt mourning doves, you will need the following:

- 2015 Wisconsin small game hunting license valid for the type of weapon used
- Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration
- A valid hunter education certificate if born on or after January 1, 1973

Calculating Hunting Hours: Mourning Dove

Legal hunting hours for the mourning dove season start 30 minutes before sunrise and end at sunset. It is illegal to hunt mourning doves outside of these hours. To calculate hunting hours for your zone, first determine if you are hunting in the northern area or southern area using the map on page 20. Then determine the zone in which you are hunting. Add the minutes shown for this zone to the opening and closing times found in the hunting hours table on pages 16 and 17.

Interference with Hunting

No person may interfere with lawful hunting with the intent of preventing the taking of a wild animal. Examples of interfering with hunting include (but are not limited to) harassing wild animals, impeding lawful hunters or damaging lawfully placed blinds.

2015 Mourning Dove Hunting Hours Northern Area, Zone A

	Sept. 2015		Oct. 2015		Nov. 2015		
Date	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	Date
1	5:41	7:28	6:18	6:31	6:00	4:37	1
2	5:42	7:27	6:19	6:29	6:01	4:36	2
3	5:43	7:25	6:21	6:27	6:03	4:34	3
4	5:45	7:23	6:22	6:25	6:04	4:33	4
5	5:46	7:21	6:23	6:23	6:05	4:32	5
6	5:47	7:19	6:25	6:21	6:07	4:30	6
7	5:48	7:17	6:26	6:19	6:08	4:29	7
8	5:50	7:15	6:27	6:18	6:10	4:28	8
9	5:51	7:13	6:28	6:16	6:11	4:26	9
10	5:52	7:11	6:30	6:14	6:12	4:25	10
11	5:53	7:09	6:31	6:12	6:14	4:24	11
12	5:54	7:07	6:32	6:10	6:15	4:23	12
13	5:56	7:06	6:34	6:08	6:17	4:22	13
14	5:57	7:04	6:35	6:07	6:18	4:21	14
15	5:58	7:02	6:36	6:05	6:19	4:20	15
16	5:59	7:00	6:38	6:03	6:21	4:19	16
17	6:01	6:58	6:39	6:01	6:22	4:18	17
18	6:02	6:56	6:40	6:00	6:24	4:17	18
19	6:03	6:54	6:42	5:58	6:25	4:16	19
20	6:04	6:52	6:43	5:56	6:26	4:15	20
21	6:06	6:50	6:44	5:54	6:28	4:14	21
22	6:07	6:48	6:46	5:53	6:29	4:13	22
23	6:08	6:46	6:47	5:51	6:30	4:12	23
24	6:09	6:44	6:49	5:49	6:31	4:12	24
25	6:11	6:42	6:50	5:48	6:33	4:11	25
26	6:12	6:40	6:51	5:46	6:34	4:10	26
27	6:13	6:38	6:53	5:45	6:35	4:10	27
28	6:14	6:36	6:54	5:43	6:37	4:09	28
29	6:16	6:35	6:55	5:42	6:38	4:09	29
30	6:17	6:32	6:57	5:40	-	-	30
31	-	-	6:58	5:39	-	-	31

2015 Mourning Dove Hunting Hours Southern Area, Zone A

	Sept. 2015		Oct. 2015		Nov. 2015		
Date	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	Date
1	5:44	7:27	6:18	6:32	5:57	4:42	1
2	5:45	7:25	6:19	6:30	5:58	4:41	2
3	5:46	7:23	6:21	6:29	5:59	4:39	3
4	5:48	7:22	6:22	6:27	6:00	4:38	4
5	5:49	7:20	6:23	6:25	6:02	4:37	5
6	5:50	7:18	6:24	6:23	6:03	4:35	6
7	5:51	7:16	6:25	6:22	6:04	4:34	7
8	5:52	7:14	6:26	6:20	6:06	4:33	8
9	5:53	7:13	6:28	6:18	6:07	4:32	9
10	5:54	7:11	6:29	6:16	6:08	4:31	10
11	5:55	7:09	6:30	6:15	6:10	4:30	11
12	5:57	7:07	6:31	6:13	6:11	4:29	12
13	5:58	7:05	6:32	6:11	6:12	4:28	13
14	5:59	7:03	6:34	6:09	6:14	4:27	14
15	6:00	7:02	6:35	6:08	6:15	4:26	15
16	6:01	7:00	6:36	6:06	6:16	4:25	16
17	6:02	6:58	6:37	6:05	6:18	4:24	17
18	6:03	6:56	6:39	6:03	6:19	4:23	18
19	6:04	6:54	6:40	6:01	6:20	4:22	19
20	6:06	6:52	6:41	6:00	6:21	4:21	20
21	6:07	6:51	6:42	5:58	6:23	4:21	21
22	6:08	6:49	6:44	5:57	6:24	4:20	22
23	6:09	6:47	6:45	5:55	6:25	4:19	23
24	6:10	6:45	6:46	5:53	6:26	4:18	24
25	6:11	6:43	6:47	5:52	6:28	4:18	25
26	6:12	6:41	6:49	5:50	6:29	4:17	26
27	6:14	6:40	6:50	5:49	6:30	4:17	27
28	6:15	6:38	6:51	5:48	6:31	4:16	28
29	6:16	6:36	6:53	5:46	6:32	4:16	29
30	6:17	6:34	6:54	5:45	-	-	30
31	-	-	6:55	5:43	-	-	31

Public or Private? How Do I Know if I'm Trespassing?

Navigability determines whether a waterway is public or private. Navigable lakes, rivers and streams are considered public waterways:

- a river or stream is navigable if it has a bed or bank and it is possible to float a canoe or other small craft on it at some time of the year, even if only during spring floods;
- since navigable waterways are open to the public, they may be used for fishing, hunting, boating, swimming or other recreational activities provided public access is available or you have permission of the landowner to cross their property to reach the waterway;
- once on a navigable waterway, you may walk, fish, hunt, swim or boat in any navigable lake, stream or impoundment as long as you remain in the water (i.e., your feet must remain wet);
- the public may only use the exposed shore area of a stream located below the ordinary high-water mark without the permission of the riparian land owner when it is necessary to exit the water to bypass an obstruction, and;
- it is not legal to enter uplands or exposed shore areas to hunt or retrieve game without permission of the landowner.



The Fields & Forest Lands Interactive Gamebird Hunting Tool (FFLIGHT) is an online mapping application that was designed to help upland game bird hunters locate cover suitable for ruffed grouse and woodcock, managed dove fields and properties stocked with game farm pheasants. For mourning dove hunting, this tool allows hunters to identify fields that are managed to attract and concentrate doves in the fall. The FFLIGHT mapping application can be accessed at dnr.wi.gov/topic/lands/fflight.html or by searching the main DNR webpage using the word "fflight". If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact Taylor Finger, Assistant Migratory Game Bird Ecologist, (608) 261-6458 or taylor.finger@wisconsin.gov.

Purchasing License, Stamps and Permits

A Wisconsin small game license (\$18), Wisconsin early September Canada goose permits (\$3) and Wisconsin waterfowl stamps (\$7) are available at DNR service centers, license sales agents, by phone at 877-WI-LICENSE and online at dnr.wi.gov. Hunters may purchase these at any time prior to and during these hunting seasons. Federal migratory bird stamps (\$25) are available at U.S. Post Offices, some U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offices and online at www.fws.gov. The federal migratory bird stamp may also be purchased at DNR license agents and at dnr.wi.gov for \$28. People who purchase this stamp through the DNR or a license agent will receive a temporary privilege valid for 45 days. A physical stamp will be mailed within 45 days.

Waterfowl Permit and Stamp Exemptions

A hunter who is under the age of 16 is not required to have either stamp. Wisconsin hunter education graduates do not need to purchase the state stamp privilege during the period in which the small game hunting license is free, but they must meet all other requirements. Senior Citizen Recreation Card holders and Armed Forces Small Game License holders are also exempt from the state stamp requirement, but a federal waterfowl stamp and HIP registration are required for these users.

Mentored Hunts

A hunter education certificate is not needed if you are participating in a Hunting Mentorship Program. Mentored hunters **MUST** be at least 10 years of age, hunt within arm's reach of a mentor, and possess the appropriate hunting license, permits, stamps, and tags. The mentor **MUST** be at least 18 years of age, possess a valid Wisconsin hunting license, and have completed a hunter education course if born on or after January 1, 1973. Only one firearm, bow, or crossbow is allowed to be possessed jointly between a mentored hunter and his or her mentor. A concealed weapon, legally possessed by a concealed carry permit holder, is counted toward the one-weapon limit.

Wildlife Violator Compact

The State of Wisconsin is a participating member of the Wildlife Violator Compact. The Wildlife Violator Compact is an agreement between participating states that prohibits a person whose hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges are suspended in one state from obtaining licenses, permits, or participating in those activities in another state. The participating states include: AL, AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, and WY. *Additional states may have joined the compact since the printing of this pamphlet.* For more information, visit dnr.wi.gov keyword "wildlife violator compact."

